“Sad Hoopla”

A One Page Play by Bo Anderson

An Actress is onstage holding a hula-hoop.
An Actor is kneeling before her dressed as a dog.

Dog: Why are we here?
Actress: So you can jump through the hoop. Come on! Come on you can do it!
Dog: Why, why, why jump through the hoop?
Actress: Because it is what you are supposed to do, and I want you to do it. I don’t know what kind of dog you are if you won’t jump through a simple hoop.
Dog: I’m a dog that doesn’t jump through hoops, that’s all.
Actress: You’re just afraid you’ll mess up, but you won’t mess up, it’s easy.
Dog: It is easy, too easy, so easy that it is stupid. Why don’t I do differential equations for you, we could discuss quantum mechanics, or…
Actress: No, just jump through the damn hoop. Jump! Come-on, you can do it. Please.
Dog: If you really want me to, but for the record this is lame. Just give me a minute.
Actress: Come on boy, come on! You like jumping don’t you? Come on! Come on!
Dog: (Actor jumps through hoop) HAHA! I did it, did you see, HAHA-
Actress: -BAD DOG! BAD! Don’t ever jump through the hoop ever! (Actress slaps dog repeatedly) BAD BAD BAD!!
Dog: Ow! Ow! Ow! What the hell is wrong with you? Ow, stop hitting me.
Actress: No, you have been very bad.
Dog: Ok, I’ve been very bad, stop hitting me.
Actress: No, you need to learn your place.
Dog: My place?
Actress: Don’t question me, do as you are told.
Dog: What?
Actress: (Slaps man) You made me do that you know. Now jump through the hoop.
Dog: But you’ll be mad at me.
Actress: PLEASE.
Dog: Ok, but if you pull any of that stuff like before… (Dog jumps through hoop) HAHA! I did it that was awesome, did you see, did you see-
Actress: -BAD DOG!!! BAD! (Slaps dog repeatedly) You’re a bad bad dog! Now jump through the hoop.
Dog: I don’t like jumping through the hoop and if I do you’ll hit me, so why the hell would I want to jump through the damn hoop!
Actress: Because you like me, and that’s the way it’s supposed to be.
Actress: What?
Dog: This is a bad game. I don’t like it one bit. (Dog stands and takes hoop) Your turn you jump through the hoop.
Actress: No I cant.
Dog: Come on you can, sure you can, it’s easy. Just jump through the hoop! Come on! You can do it. Come on! Come on! You can do it! Come on!
Actress: (Sobbing) I cant, I cant, I cant!
Dog: Oh well, too bad. (Walks off playing with the hoop, and actress cries)

The End

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